

NEWS FROM ED MARKEY

United States Congress Massachusetts Seventh District

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STATEMENT OF REP. EDWARD MARKEY REGARDING THE REMOVAL OF THE TORTURE OUTSOURCING PROVISIONS FROM THE INTELLIGENCE BILL

Washington, D.C.- Rep. Markey released the following statement today regarding the status of the torture provisions in the 9/11 Intelligence bill:

“I am very pleased that after vigorous opposition was mounted to strip the torture provisions from the 9/11 bill, House and Senate negotiators decided to remove controversial immigration provisions from the bill that included language that would facilitate the outsourcing of torture.”

Sections 3032 and 3033 of H.R.10, the House-passed version of the bill, would have legitimized the practice of extraordinary rendition—the practice of sending detained aliens to other nations where they are likely to face interrogation under torture.

“I have long fought to stop the practice of outsourcing torture. This is a great victory for human and civil rights and a great victory for the 9/11 families and the 9/11 Commission. While House Republicans did not allow a vote on the Conference report, the message is clear: we will not stand for torture in our name.”

“The fight is not over. We will be back in December to pass the Intelligence Bill. I will oppose any attempt to restore the torture outsourcing language to the bill. I will not stop until my amendment H.R. 4674 is passed to outlaw outsourcing torture.”

The U.S. government still practices extraordinary rendition. Former CIA Director George Tenet testified before Congress that 70 terrorist suspects had been “rendered” prior to September 11th, and press reports indicated that the CIA has continued the practice since that time. Last summer I introduced legislation to stop extraordinary rendition, H.R. 4674. House Republicans snuck provisions into the House Intelligence Bill to do the exact opposite, to legitimize extraordinary rendition.

For more information on Rep. Markey’s work to end extraordinary rendition, please visit:

http://www.house.gov/markey/human_rights.htm.